It was agreed to constitute an internal ED Committee and the same was constituted.

4. NON-EMPLOYMENT OR EMPLOYMENT IN SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES ONLY OF EDAS IN RMS:

A provision has been made for absorption of ED Agents in Group 'D' posts irrespective of the fact whether they are employed in Postal Wing or RMS.

Providing of telex services in Andhra Pradesh

2836. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to provide telex services in the major towns of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the names of the towns where such facilities are proposed to be provided in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of big towns including district headquarters and other important towns have already got telex services. It is proposed to extend the telex facilities to the following 4 district headquarters in the near future:

1. Khammam.
2. Machilipatnam.
3. Nalgonda and
4. Chittore.

Regularisation of the Services at ED Mailmen in Delhi Circle

2837. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ED mailmen working in Delhi Circle are detained beyond 5 hours and are paid pro rata wages for the additional work; and

(b) whether Government propose to regularise the services of ED mailmen in Delhi Circle as per rules; if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Extra Departmental employees are part-time employees and are generally engaged for a period ranging from 2 to 5 hours a day. In Delhi Circle when exigencies of service require, Extra Departmental employees outside their working hours are engaged as casual labourers. They are paid for additional work applicable to Casual labourers on hourly rate basis.

(b) Extra Departmental employees are not regularised as a matter of course. However, they are eligible for absorption in departmental posts of Group—'D' and Mail Guards by way of examination to the extent of available vacancies as per recruitment rules. There is no other way of regularisation of Extra Departmental employees.

Emoluments of ED Employees

2838. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ED Post Offices opened during each of the last three years and so far in the current year;

(b) what is the category-wise number of ED employees recruited during the same period;

(c) whether pensioners/school teachers are still being appointed as ED employees; if so, what is the number of such employees as on 31st December, 1988;

(d) whether the emoluments of existing ED employees will be changed by the introduction of Panchayat Dak Sewak Scheme; if so, by how much; and

(c) what is the State-wise number of offices opened under this Scheme so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The information is as follows:—

No. of ED Post Offices opened

1985-86— 3

1986-87— 3

1987-88— 857

1988-89— 238

(upto 28-2-1989)

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) The Scheme of Panchayat Dak Sewaks has been introduced so far in only 19 districts whereas extra-departmental agents are engaged in practically every district. In this limited context, it is possible that in some cases there may be a marginal reduction in the work load of some ED agents. This however, need not necessarily affect their emoluments which is based on a slab system. So far, there is no report of emoluments of any of the ED agents having been reduced on this score.

(e) The information is furnished in the Statement.

Statement

Number of Gram Sabhas/Panchayats where the Scheme of Panchayat Dak Sewaks has been introduced.

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	No. of Gram Sabhas/ Panchayats
1.	Bihar	45
2.	Haryana	8
3.	Himachal Pradesh	27
4.	Karnataka	11
5.	Maharashtra	64
6.	Orissa	10
7.	Rajasthan	16
8.	Uttar Pradesh	821
9.	Punjab	966
10.	Assam	48
11.	Madhya Pradesh	676
12.	Gujarat	34
13.	Andhra Pradesh	120
14.	West Bengal	2
15.	North Eastern States	15
	TOTAL :	2863

Increased emoluments of ED employees

2839. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of increased emoluments to ED employees of the Postal Department from 25.65 per cent to 69.1 per cent effective from 1st January, 1986 has actually benefited all the ED branch postmasters; and

(b) if so, how and by how much?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b) The allowances of the extra departmental employees are fixed on the basis of workload. From 1-1-1986, the allowances of all categories of extra departmental employees have been revised and the ED employees have been benefited by an approximate increase of 26 per cent and 67 per cent on the minimum and maximum of the allowances admissible to them before revision. The details of allowances drawn by the ED branch post masters